(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government has not found the demand acceptable.

(c) and (d) The defence personnel have not rejected the recommendations of the 6th Central Pay Commission.

Complaints against Army Officers

952. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received complaints against army officers for "misconduct", "misbehaviour" and sexual assault on women during the last one year;

(b) if so, the details of complaints received from women officers; and

(c) the steps Government has taken or proposes to be taken to protect women in armed forces?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY) : (a) to (c) One complaint from a lady army officer about physical and mental harassment by her superior officers was received during the last one year. The allegations leveled by the lady officer have been investigated by a Court of Inquiry and found to be baseless. Whenever such complaints are received the case is promptly investigated and based on the outcome of the investigation stringent action is taken if any body is found at fault.

Need for a National war memorial

953. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no national war memorial to remember the soldiers, sailors and airmen who laid down their lives to guard an independent India even after sixty years of Independence;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government is considering for erection of war memorials; and

(c) if so, where and when it will be executed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU) : (a) Yes.

(b) A suitable land has not been obtained.

(c) Does not arise till land is available.

Incidents of misconduct by Army personnel

954. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 24th January, 2007 Army personnel, beat up passengers in general compartment of Guwahati-bound North-East Express;

(b) whether this was third incident in the State of Bihar over the last few months;

(c) whether in a new year party in a hotel in Kolkata, two drunken Army Officers were arrested for molesting women;

(d) if so, what action has been taken to check reign of uniform terror; and

(e) whether any such sordid incidents have taken place in current year?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) Four Army personnel belonging to Northern Command alongwith two BSF personnel and three civilian personnel allegedly got into an altercation with civilian co-passengers while traveling in North East Express, from Delhi.

(b) No other such incident involving Army Personnel has come to notice from Bihar during the last six months.

(c) Two Officers were detained for investigation,

(d) and (e) There is no reign of uniform terror. In every case, action is taken as per law.

Tampering of equipment of Arjuna during trial

†955. SHRI KRISHAN LAL BALMIKI:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that effort had been made to prove war tank Arjuna made in India unsuccessful by deliberately tampering its equipments during its testing;

(b) whether military officers do not agree to the proposal of the enquiry into whole matter by D.R.D.O.;

(c) whether the manufacturing of indigenous fighter aircrafts could not yet be possible due to frequent changes in designs of Light Combat aircraft and not finalizing the design;

(d) whether a lobby in the army is in favour of the purchase for entire equipments of army from foreign countries; and

(e) If so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) The Main Battle Tank (MBT), Arjun were not tampered during any trials. Reliability trials have been carried out systematically by the army with successful results.

(b) There is no such proposal from DRDO.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.